Ryerson, Edward Stanley

September 27th, 1916

Dr. Stanley Ryerson,

No. 4 Canadian General Hospital (University of Toronto),

Salonica, Greece.

Dear Dr. Ryerson:

I read with great regret in this morning's paper that your brother has been killed at the front, and I drop you this note to assure you of my deep sympathy. Though you have the satisfaction of knowing he has given his life for a great cause and that you have also the respect and sympathy of the public in your bereavement, these will not remove your deep sense of personal loss. Such bevearements are coming so fast upon us that one hardly knows what to say in each new case.

Yesterday at our first gathering of students, when I was delivering my address, I read out the names of sixty who had fallen since last May, and so many of them were men in whom we were placing great hopes for the future.

Yesterday afternoon I saw Dr. Watson for the first time. He gave me a most interesting account of the proceedings at Salonica, and I was particularly glad to hear through him of the splendid spirit of comradeship that exists among the officers of the unit in spite of the tedious work and the distressing weather that you have had to endure. I hope that you and the other members of the staff will recognise that the University is proud of what you have done, and that we are grateful to you for the way in which you have maintained its credit, in such a difficult situation. We are always glad to get news from the Hospital,

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and whenever anything is of particular interest we endeavour to have it printed so that the public may be kept aware of what you are doing.

This year at home we shall be very dull. You will be surprised to know that over ninety of our teaching staff are on active service, and that over 3000 of our graduates and undergraduates have enlisted. The attendance in Medicine I understand will be fairly good this year. Applied Science will probably be under 200, and in the Arts Colleges the attendance of men will be very small. Apparently there will be an increase in the number of women students, but we have no figures yet.

The death of Dr. Brodie has been a severe blow to us. He was taken away at the very time that he seemed to be doing his best work. For the winter we have appointed Dr. Mottram, recently of McGill and formerly a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, to take his place. He seems to be a very agreeable man.

Dr. Andrew Gordon is very low. I was at the house on Sunday, and they themselves realise what the Doctors have told me that there is no chance for his recovery. As you know he is one of the best of our clinical staff in Medicine.

You will probably get details from your friends as to other matters about the University. Please give my kind regards to the other members of the staff. I wrote Colonel Henry a few weeks ago. He will probably have my letter by this time. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Nov. 8th 1916

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Dr. R. A. Falconer
President
University of Toronto.

Dear Mister President

I appreciate very sincerely your thoughtfulness in sending me your sympathy so promptly after seeing my brother's name in the Casualty list. He is indeed an inestimable loss to us, but we cannot but feel proud that he has so nobly made the supreme sacrifice for such a great cause. He had a most sterling character and a particularly cheerful disposition and his loving memory will always live with us as one of those who have given their lives for the benefit of humanity.

You have no doubt heard from those who have returned to Toronto the various experiences, the University Hospital has had during the year it has been in Salonica. It is most gratifying to us to hear the favorable impression that exists of our Hospital in the various battalions in the different parts of the front line trenches in the units at the Base, from the Hospital Ships & the Hospitals in Malta to which our cases have been sent. Most of the work up until September was of a medical type but during the last two months the Surgical Staff have been busy with all kinds of descriptions of injuries. We have had to use our ingenuity to treat certain cases to our satisfaction. As a result, Wilson

has devised a splint for fractures of the arm, a description of which has been sent in for publication. Having done considerable work with Dr Rimmer on the direct transfusion of blood, I am glad to say I have had very excellent results in a number of cases in which I have used it. Mallock has been using his surgical experience to great advantage in many of the cases as have also Gaby, Hendry, Watts & Pearce. Unfortunately, sickness continues to deplete our staff. At present Gaby & Fletcher are at Malta recuperating after being laid up & Wilson & Gallie are now in Hospital & will probably have to have a change in order to put them on their feet again. The nursing staff have suffered likewise about a third of the original number

having been sent back for one cause or another. Consequently it is not with much regret that we hear that the Canadian authorities have asked for our recall. The feeling is pretty general that after a year here, a change will do us all good.

I cannot lose this opportunity of expressing to the University through you how much I appreciate their continuing my salary, for it is a great weight off my mind to feel that my family have in this way been relieved from suffering a financial strain in addition to that of anxiety for my welfare.

Thanking you again for your kind & sympathetic letter I remain

Yours very sincerely

E. Stanley Ryerson